GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:677
ANSWERED ON:02.12.2015
Scholarship Programme for Wards of Indians Living Abroad
Sanjar Shri Alok

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to increase the number of graduate level scholarship to be given to the wards of Indians living abroad;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the number of applications received from different countries in this regard; and
(d) the action taken by the Government thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
GENERAL V.K. SINGH (RETD.)

(a) & (b): This Ministry had launched a Scheme called "Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children" (SPDC) in the academic year 2006-07 for the wards of Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) to assist them in pursuing Under Graduate courses in Professional and Non-Professional Indian Universities/ Institutes. Scholarship is provided to 100 students per year [NRIs & PIOs] in the form of financial assistance as per guidelines of the Scheme. At present there is no proposal to increase the number of scholarships to be given under the scheme.
(c) & (d): It was decided that the SPDC Scheme would be revamped and accordingly no applications were invited for 2015-16. 770 students have availed of scholarships under the Scheme since beginning in 2006-07 to 2014-15.